

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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- 1 1. An Internet co-location facility security system, comprising:
2 a plurality of biometrics readers;
3 an access control system coupled to the plurality of biometrics readers;
4 a computer including a central software program connected to the access control
5 system, the central software program configured to monitor the use of the plurality of
6 biometrics readers;
7 a server including a database connected to the central software program, the
8 database configured to receive information from the central software program regarding
9 the use of the plurality of biometrics readers and to transmit this information to co-
10 located members through the Internet; and
11 a web-based interface configured to allow co-located members to schedule visits
12 to the facility through the Internet to the database on the server.
 - 1 2. The Internet co-location facility security system of Claim 1 further including an
2 input device coupled to each of the plurality of biometrics readers for entry of a visitor
3 identification code of a visitor; a match between the visitor identification code and the
4 visitor's personal identification characteristics triggering the access control system to
5 allow the visitor to gain access to designated areas in the facility.
 - 1 3. The Internet co-location facility security system of Claim 2 wherein the access
2 control system further includes a transmitter for transmitting the information regarding
3 the use of the plurality of biometrics readers to the central software program, the

4 information regarding the use of the plurality of biometrics readers including the visitor
5 identification code and the date and time the visitor used one of more of the plurality of
6 biometrics readers.

1 4. The Internet co-location facility security system of Claim 1 wherein information
2 regarding the scheduled visits transmitted by the co-located members through the Internet
3 to the database on the server includes the date, time, expected duration of a scheduled
4 visit, and a visit identification number for the scheduled visit.

1 5. The Internet co-location facility security system of Claim 1 wherein the server
2 further includes a transmitter for transmitting information regarding the scheduled visits
3 to the central software program through a network.

1 6. The Internet co-location facility security system of Claim 1 further including a
2 front entrance biometrics reader for initial access to the facility, the use of the front
3 entrance biometrics reader triggering the central software program to transmit
4 information regarding the use of the front entrance biometrics reader to a lobby
5 workstation.

1 7. The Internet co-location facility security system of Claim 1 further including a
2 user interface for triggering the central software program to combine a visitor
3 identification code with a visit identification number for the scheduled visit.

1 8. The Internet co-location facility security system of Claim 7 wherein the user
2 interface authorizes a visitor to progress through the remainder of the facility using the
3 plurality of biometrics readers.

1 9. The Internet co-location facility security system of Claim 1 wherein information
2 regarding the use of the plurality of biometrics readers is transmitted by the central
3 software program through the network to the database on the server, the information
4 including a visitor identification code, a visit identification number for the scheduled
5 visit, and the date and time a visitor used any one of the plurality of biometrics readers.

1 10. The Internet co-location facility security system of Claim 9 wherein the co-
2 located members may access the information in the database regarding a visitor's use of
3 the plurality of biometrics readers by using the web-based interface accessible from one
4 or more remote computer terminals connected to the Internet.

1 11. An Internet co-location facility security system, comprising:
2 an enrollment biometrics reader;
3 an access control system coupled the enrollment biometrics reader and to a
4 plurality of other biometrics readers;
5 a computer including a central software program connected to the access control
6 system, the central software program configured to monitor the use of the plurality of
7 other biometrics readers;
8 a server including a database connected to the central software program, the
9 database configured to receive information from the central software program regarding
10 the use of the plurality of biometrics readers and to transmit this information to co-
11 located members through the Internet; and
12 a web-based interface configured to allow co-located members to schedule visits
13 to the facility through the Internet to the database on the server.

1 12. The Internet co-location facility security system of Claim 11 further including an
2 imaging device to record an image of a personal characteristic of a visitor not previously
3 enrolled in the security system, the image of the personal characteristic stored on a
4 storage device in the enrollment biometrics reader.

1 13. The Internet co-location facility security system of Claim 12 further including an
2 input device coupled to the enrollment biometrics reader for matching a stored image of
3 the visitor's personal characteristic with a visitor identification code entered into the
4 enrollment biometrics reader through the input device.

1 14. The Internet co-location facility security system of Claim 13 wherein the
2 enrollment biometrics reader transmits a stored image matched with a visitor
3 identification code to the plurality of other biometrics readers located in the facility
4 through a private security network.

1 15. The Internet co-location facility security system of Claim 11 wherein a visitor
2 may be enrolled in the access control system by entering the visitor information into an
3 input device coupled to the access control system.

1 16. The Internet co-location facility security system of Claim 11 wherein a stored
2 image matched with a visitor identification code from the enrollment biometrics reader
3 and identification information from the access control system is download by the central
4 software program, the central software program transmitting the information through the
5 Internet to the database on the server.

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1 25. The Internet co-location facility security system of Claim 20 wherein the central
2 software program combines a visit identification number with the information regarding
3 the use of the plurality of biometrics readers from the access control system, the
4 combined information transmitted to the database on the server where it is accessible to
5 co-located members from one or more remote computer terminals connected to the
6 Internet.

1 26. An Internet co-location facility security system, comprising
2 a plurality of biometrics readers;
3 an access control system coupled to the plurality of biometrics readers;
4 a computer including a central software program connected to the access control
5 system, the central software program configured to monitor the use of the plurality of
6 biometrics readers; and
7 a web-based interface configured to allow co-located members to schedule visits
8 to the facility through the Internet to the database on the server.

1 27. The Internet co-location facility security system of Claim 26 further including a
2 server including a database connected to the central software program, the database
3 configured to receive information from the central software program regarding the use of
4 the plurality of biometrics readers and to transmit this information to co-located members
5 through a network.

1 28. The Internet co-location facility security system of Claim 26 further including an
2 input device coupled to each of the plurality of biometrics readers for entry of a visitor
3 identification code of a visitor, a match between the visitor identification code and the

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4 visitor's personal identification characteristics triggering the access control system to
5 allow the visitor to gain access to designated areas in the facility.

1 29. The Internet co-location facility security system of Claim 26 wherein the access
2 control system further includes a transmitter for transmitting the information regarding
3 the use of the plurality of biometrics readers to the central software program, the
4 information regarding the use of the plurality of biometrics readers including a visitor
5 identification code and the date and time the visitor used one or more of the plurality of
6 the biometrics readers.

1 30. The Internet co-location facility security system of Claim 26 wherein the central
2 software program combines a visit identification number with the information regarding
3 the use of the plurality of biometrics readers from the access control system, the
4 combined information transmitted to the database on the server where it is accessible to
5 co-located members from one or more remote computer terminals connected to the
6 Internet.